

Remarks/Arguments:

Entry of the above amendments is respectfully requested prior to examination of the application.

Claims 1 - 5 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof. Claim 6 has been rewritten in independent form.

Applicants note that new claims 14 - 19 are the allowed claims in the parent application (10/337,498) to the present case. Applicants further note that the allowed parent application (10/337,498) will be abandoned.

Respectfully submitted,

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EEF/dhm

Dated: October 29, 2004

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The Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge payment to Deposit Account No. 18-0350 of any fees associated with this communication.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on:

October 29, 2004

Ellen E. Fielitz